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(WGN-AM) - With Lake Michigan water levels reaching what scientists consider to be an all time low, Illinois GOP Congressman Mark Kirk and environmental leaders are calling for the ratification of a water use compact.

Lake water levels are low from a combination of increased use for drinking and other consumer needs plus climate change that reduces the winter ice cover and thus allows greater evaporation.

The water compact would set rules for the use of Great Lakes water and regulate efforts like a recent one by a Canadian company to sell Lake Superior water to Asia.

The compact has been signed by Illinois and Minnesota, but still needs all of the other Great Lakes states and provinces plus the U.S. and Canadian governments to approve it.